School Vision: Building upon a foundation of social justice and an ethic of care, we are a community of learners actively engaged in the development of critical, transformative knowledge for social work practice.

BSW Mission Statement: The Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) program addresses issues of power and issues of discrimination based on age, race, gender, sexual orientation, class and culture. The educational objective of the BSW curriculum is to provide students with the knowledge, values and skills necessary for an initial level of professional practice, focusing on the interface between personal problems and public issues. Critical thinking and structural analysis are central to the learning experience offered by the School and to the promotion of social justice and human well-being.

During this pandemic, the shift to online learning has greatly altered teaching and studying at UBC, including changes to health and safety considerations. Keep in mind that some UBC courses might cover topics that are censored or considered illegal by non-Canadian governments. This may include, but is not limited to, human rights, representative government, defamation, obscenity, gender or sexuality, and historical or current geopolitical controversies. If you are a student living abroad, you will be subject to the laws of your local jurisdiction, and your local authorities might limit your access to course material or take punitive action against you. UBC is strongly committed to academic freedom, but has no control over foreign authorities (please visit http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,33,86,0 for an articulation of the values of the University conveyed in the Senate Statement on Academic Freedom). Thus, we recognize that students will have legitimate reason to exercise caution in studying certain subjects. If you have concerns regarding your personal situation, consider postponing taking a course with manifest risks, until you are back on campus or reach out to your academic advisor to find substitute courses. For further information and support, please visit: http://academic.ubc.ca/support-resources/freedom-expression

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year/Term</th>
<th>2020 Fall, Term 1, September 10-December 3, 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Schedule</td>
<td>Thursdays, 2:00 – 5:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Location</td>
<td>Online</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Office Location</th>
<th>Office Phone</th>
<th>e-mail address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Mohamed Ibrahim</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>604-822-2100</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mohamed.ibrahim@ubc.ca">mohamed.ibrahim@ubc.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Hours</td>
<td>By appointment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PREREQUISITES AND/OR COREQUISITES

There are no prerequisites for this course.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will explore both the theory and practice needed to work in the field of addictions. This course covers a wide range of topics from specific counselling skills to the context of drugs in our society. A social justice, strengths-based, harm reduction orientation to substance use and addiction will be applied.

The course is divided into a number of different themes, specifically:

1. The course will explore addiction and recovery using attachment theory as a foundation.
2. A harm reduction based approach to practice in the field of addiction will be examined.
3. Mainstream and emergent models of practice at the individual, family, group, community and policy levels will be examined. A number of practice models to addiction treatment will be explored.
4. Social Justice will be explored throughout this course. Our society’s primary response to illegal drug use and addiction is through the criminal justice system. The evidence shows that this approach has failed. A new model based on social work, human rights and public health principles will be examined.

Participation in this course will allow students to familiarize themselves with the concept of addiction from a range of theoretical perspectives, with an emphasis on a bio-psycho-social-spiritual-environmental understanding of addiction.

Class time will be primarily comprised of presentations, group discussions, and role-plays. Each class will entail a focused discussion for which the instructor will share responsibility with students for the creation of a positive and engaging learning environment.

RATIONALE

Social workers in virtually all areas of practice deal with individuals, families and communities who have problems related to drugs, substance use and misuse. Social workers can play a role in policy development, health education and promotion, direct provision of addiction-specific services (including treatment services), provision of harm reduction services, assessment, referral/linkage, mobilization of self-help, mediation, advocacy, community development, public education and research.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. To acquire knowledge in relation to:
   1. The core concepts in the field of addiction; historical and political context of addiction and drug policy,
   2. Various theories related to etiology and treatment of addiction,
(3) The principles of drug action and the physical and psychological effects of the major drugs of abuse (including stimulants, sedatives, opiates, hallucinogens, marijuana, alcohol, nicotine, and prescription drugs); bio-physiological mechanisms of addiction,
(4) The roles and fields of practice of social workers in the field of addiction,
(5) The larger context of drugs in our society and how our current criminal justice approach to drugs has failed and how our society would benefit from a public health model of controlling currently illegal drugs.

2. To develop skills in relation to:

(1) Engagement of those who are affected by drug use and other addictions;
(2) Assessment of those affected by drug use and other addictions;
(3) Intervention with those affected by drug use and other addictions;
(4) Intervention at the individual, family, community, organizational, institutional, and public policy levels with respect to drug use and other addictions.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

“Regular attendance is expected of students in all their classes (including lectures, laboratories, tutorials, seminars, etc.). Students who neglect their academic work and assignments may be excluded from the final examinations. Students who are unavoidably absent because of illness or disability should report to their instructors on return to classes.” (UBC Calendar)

Academic Dishonesty: Please review the UBC Calendar “Academic regulations” for the university policy on cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty. Also visit www.arts.ubc.ca and go to the students’ section for useful information on avoiding plagiarism and on correct documentation.

Retaining Assignments: Students should retain a copy of all submitted assignments (in case of loss) and should also retain all their marked assignments in case they wish to apply for a Review of Assigned Standing. Students have the right to view their marked examinations with their instructor, providing they apply to do so within a month of receiving their final grades. This review is for pedagogic purposes. The examination remains the property of the university.

COURSE POLICIES:

Attendance

The attendance policy is in the student handbook on page 11: https://socialwork.ubc.ca/current-students/

The School considers class attendance (online in the current pandemic situation) to be an essential component of integrated learning in professional social work education. Therefore, regular attendance is required in all social work courses. Instructors may count repeated late arrivals or early departures as an absence, and a meeting should be setup to discuss this with the student.
The University accommodates students with disabilities who have registered with Access and Diversity. Students, who will require accommodation for attendance due to disability, are encouraged to inform the instructor, and if necessary, to contact Access and Diversity preferably not later than the first week of class. The School will also accommodate religious observance, according to University Policy 65, and students are expected to inform the instructor. Students who wish to be accommodated for unavoidable absences due to varsity athletics, family obligations, or other similar commitments, must notify their instructors in writing at least two weeks in advance, and preferably earlier. This reflects expectations for professional social workers in their place of employment.

If students miss three or more classes, they may be considered to have not met the requirements of the course. If students have valid reasons, they could be withdrawn from the course with the approval of the instructor – otherwise, they would fail the course.

SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS:

Assignments are due as noted in this course outline, unless otherwise informed by the instructor.

RETURN OF MARKED STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS:

All assignments are to be submitted via the UBC Canvas course site unless otherwise specified on the course outline or instructor. Assignments will be marked with track changes and comments provided in the same manner.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS:

Generally, late assignments will not be accepted. In emergency situations, students must discuss any potential lateness with their instructor and be prepared to have a medical certificate available. Assignments submitted after the deadline with no documentation will be penalized by one percentage point per day.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:


Required Podcast
Crackdown podcast.

[https://crackdownpod.com/](https://crackdownpod.com/)
Links to episodes from Crackdown post will be provided as part of the required readings.
Please see the sessions with the podcast links

**Crackdown Podcast Credits/Acknowledgement**

Garth Mullins is *Crackdown*’s host and executive producer. Crackdown is produced by Alexander Kim, Lisa Hale, Sam Fenn, Polly Leger and Gordon Katic. Production help from Alex de Boer and Sharon Nadeem. Consulting from Samantha Pranteau, Jay Slaunwhite and Al Fowler. Glen Mofford, author of “Along the E&N: The Historic Hotels of Vancouver Island” gave us some Balmoral history. Crackdown’s Editorial Board is: Samona Marsh, Shelda Kastor, Greg Fess, Jeff Louden, Dean Wilson, Laura Shaver, Dave Murray, and Al Fowler. Rest In Peace Chereece Keewatin.

**Articles/publications available for download**


Recommended reading is on page 7 and page 8 of this course outline.

---

**COURSE SCHEDULE:**

*Please note that many factors will influence the order of the sessions below and that the schedule is subject to changes – as much notice as possible will be provided*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SESSION 1:</th>
<th>Sept. 10, 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOPIC:</td>
<td>Introduction to addiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Overview of course, including course outline and assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Core theoretical concepts, with an emphasis on beliefs and attitudes about addiction, and defining addiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Addiction as a field of practice in social work; differential approaches to practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Roles of social workers in the field of addiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>READING:</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Addiction: A Practical Guide to Counsellors, Chapters 1 and 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crackdown podcast. Episode 1-War Correspondents <a href="https://crackdownpod.com/podcast/1-war-correspondents/">https://crackdownpod.com/podcast/1-war-correspondents/</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SESSION 2:</th>
<th>Sept. 17, 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOPIC:</td>
<td>Harm Reduction Theory and Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• This presentation explores the theory behind services, which are provided for active drug users.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• This presentation will explore the history of harm reduction, the foundational principles of harm reduction, social capital theory and the future of harm reduction.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**SESSION 3:** Sept. 24, 2020  
**TOPIC:** Chemicals and the body  
- This session explores the different classifications drugs and how our brain changes in response to drug use.

**READING:** Fundamentals of Addiction: A Practical Guide to Counsellors, Chapters 6 & 7

**SESSION 4:** Oct. 1, 2020  
**TOPIC:** Screening and Assessment Skills  
- Screening tools and assessment  
- Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT).  
- Motivational Interviewing

**READING:** Fundamentals of Addiction: A Practical Guide to Counsellors, Chapters 5, 8, 9.

**SESSION 5:** Oct. 8, 2020  
**TOPIC:** Opioid Use Disorders  
This session will cover  
- Opioid Use Disorder  
- Screening and assessments of OUD  
- Pharmacological and psychosocial interventions- rationale, pharmacology, and biology (methadone, buprenorphine/naloxone etc.)  
- Harm reduction strategies (Overdose prevention & Naloxone training)

**READING:** Fundamentals of Addiction: A Practical Guide to Counsellors, Chapters 8, 12 & 17

Crackdown podcast. Episode 2 & 9—Change intolerance  

**SESSION 6:** Oct. 15, 2020  
**TOPIC:** Alcohol and Benzodiazepine Use Disorders  
This session will cover  
- Alcohol and Benzo Use Disorders  
- Screening and assessments of AUD & Benzos  
- Pharmacological and psychosocial interventions  
- Harm reduction strategies

**READING:** Fundamentals of Addiction: A Practical Guide to Counsellors, Chapters 8 & 12

**SESSION 7:** Oct.22, 2020  
**TOPIC:** Stimulant Use Disorders  
This session will cover
- Stimulant Use Disorders
- Screening and assessments of SUDs
- Pharmacological and psychosocial interventions
- Harm reduction strategies

**READING:** Fundamentals of Addiction: A Practical Guide to Counsellors, Chapters 8, 12 & 17

**SESSION 8:** Oct. 29, 2020  
**TOPIC:** Concurrent disorders, Relapse and Recovery  
This session explores:  
- Co-occurrence of substance use and mental health conditions including trauma related conditions  
- The recovery process and services available for individuals with concurrent conditions

**READING:** Fundamentals of Addiction: A Practical Guide to Counsellors, Chapters 10 and 16

**SESSION 9:** Nov. 5, 2020—Exam week  
**TOPIC:** Working with Families  
- This session explores key factors to consider when working with families affected by substance use. Understanding how family healing occurs is an important aspect of healing from addictions. We will explore various family counselling situations.

**READING:** Required reading:  
Fundamentals of Addiction: A Practical Guide to Counsellors, Chapter 5

**SESSION 10:** Nov. 12, 2020  
**TOPIC:** A Community Responding to Crisis  
Guest Speaker in overdose response.

**READING:** Crackdown post. Episode 3-Unsanctioned  
https://crackdownpod.com/podcast/episode-3-unsanctioned/

**SESSION 11:** Nov. 19, 2020  
**TOPIC:** Student group presentations and feedback  
Presentations and feedback: each group will give presentation (30 min) followed by group led online discussion and will give each other constructive feedback on both the content and process.

**READING:** Articles to be distributed at least week prior by presenting groups

**SESSION 12:** Nov. 26, 2020  
**TOPIC:** Student group presentations and feedback  
Presentations and feedback: each group will give presentation (30 min) followed by group led online discussion and will give each other constructive feedback on both the content and process.

**READING:** Articles to be distributed at least week prior by presenting groups

**SESSION 13:** Dec. 3, 2020—End of term paper due tonight  
**TOPIC:** Student group presentations and feedback
Working in the field of addictions.

- Summary and Conclusion
  An opportunity to share ideas stimulated by the course and receive feedback on your future direction
  - This discussion will explore a variety of topics related to the experience of working in the field of addictions.

READING: Required readings to be posted on Canvas

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS, DUE DATES AND GRADING:

Course assignments details will be provided on first day of class.

Recommended but not required reading:


Lukas, S., Where to start and what to ask: An Assessment Handbook. 1993


Canadian Centre for Substance Abuse. Substance Abuse in Canada: Youth in Focus. 2007.


Web Sites

- BC Centre for Substance Use http://www.bccsu.ca
- Centre for Addictions Research of BC http://www.uvic.ca/research/centres/carbc/
- Centre for Addiction and Mental Health http://www.camh.ca/en/hospital/Pages/home.aspx
- Campbell Collaboration (systematic reviews of the effectiveness of various social welfare, criminal justice, and education interventions; includes some AODA issues) http://www.campbellcollaboration.org
- Cochrane Collaboration (systematic reviews of the effectiveness of various healthcare interventions; includes some AODA issues) http://www.cochrane.org
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Association: http://www.samhsa.gov/
- Alcoholics Anonymous http://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org/
- National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome http://nofas.org
- BCCDC Harm Reduction http://towardtheheart.com

LEARNING ANALYTICS

Learning analytics includes the collection and analysis of data about learners to improve teaching and learning. No learning analytics are being used in this course.
COPYRIGHT

All materials of this course (course handouts, lecture slides, assessments, course readings, etc.) are the intellectual property of the Course Instructor or licensed to be used in this course by the copyright owner. Redistribution of these materials by any means without permission of the copyright holder(s) constitutes a breach of copyright and may lead to academic discipline.

UBC GRADING CRITERIA:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percent Range</th>
<th>Mid-Point</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>Represents work of exceptional quality. Content, organization and style are all at a high level. Student demonstrates excellent research and reference to literature where appropriate. Also, student uses sound critical thinking, has innovative ideas on the subject and shows personal engagement with the topic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>85-89</td>
<td>87</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>80-84</td>
<td>82</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>76-79</td>
<td>77.5</td>
<td>Represents work of good quality with no major weaknesses. Writing is clear and explicit and topic coverage and comprehension is more than adequate. Shows some degree of critical thinking and personal involvement in the work. Good use of existing knowledge on the subject.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>72-75</td>
<td>73.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>68-71</td>
<td>69.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>64-67</td>
<td>65.5</td>
<td>Adequate and average work. Shows fair comprehension of the subject, but has some weaknesses in content, style and/or organization of the paper. Minimal critical awareness or personal involvement in the work. Adequate use of literature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>60-63</td>
<td>62.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>55-59</td>
<td>57</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>50-54</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Minimally adequate work, barely at a passing level. Serious flaws in content, organization and/or style. Poor comprehension of the subject, and minimal involvement in the paper. Poor use of research and existing literature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-49</td>
<td></td>
<td>Failing work. Inadequate for successful completion of the course or submitted beyond final date of acceptance for paper.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>